Jeff Prostok State Bar No. 16352500 Lynda Lankford State Bar No. 11935020 FORSHEY & PROSTOK, LLP

777 Main Street, Suite 1290 Fort Worth, TX 76012

Tel: 817-877-8855 Fax: 817-877-4151

Email: jprostok@forsheyprostok.com Email: llankford@forsheyprostok.com

Proposed Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession

## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

In re:	§	Chapter 11
EVENTIDE CREDIT ACQUISITIONS, LLC,	§ §	Case No. 20-40349-elm11
Debtor.	§ §	

DEBTOR'S APPLICATION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING THE EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION OF FORSHEY & PROSTOK, LLP AS ATTORNEYS FOR THE DEBTOR AS OF THE PETITION DATE

NO HEARING WILL BE HELD ON THIS APPLICATION UNLESS A WRITTEN RESPONSE IS FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT AT 501 W. 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 147, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102 BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON MARCH 3, 2020, WHICH IS AT LEAST 21 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF SERVICE HEREOF.

ANY RESPONSE SHALL BE IN WRITING AND FILED WITH THE CLERK, AND A COPY SHALL BE SERVED UPON THE UNDERSIGNED COUNSEL FOR MOVANT PRIOR TO THE DATE AND TIME SET FORTH HEREIN. IF A RESPONSE IS FILED A HEARING MAY BE HELD WITH NOTICE ONLY TO THE OBJECTING PARTY.

IF NO HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION IS TIMELY REQUESTED, THE RELIEF REQUESTED SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE UNOPPOSED, AND THE COURT MAY ENTER AN ORDER GRANTING THE RELIEF SOUGHT.

TO THE HONORABLE EDWARD L. MORRIS, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

Eventide Credit Acquisitions, LLC (the "<u>Debtor</u>"), as debtor in possession, files this Application (the "<u>Application</u>") pursuant to section 327 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532, as amended (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>"), and Rule 2014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "<u>Bankruptcy Rules</u>") for entry of order authorizing the employment and retention of Forshey & Prostok, LLP as Attorneys for the Debtor as of the Petition Date. In support of this Application, the Debtor respectfully states as follows:

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

1. This Court has jurisdiction to consider this Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

## **BACKGROUND**

- 2. On January 28, 2020 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtor filed a voluntary petition in this Court for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy</u> <u>Code</u>").
- 3. The Debtor continues to manage and operate its business as a debtor-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in this case.
- 4. On February 7, 2020, the United States Trustee appointed the Official Unsecured Creditors' Committee in this case.

# RETENTION OF FORSHEY & PROSTOK, LLP

5. By this Application, the Debtor seeks Court approval, pursuant to section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code and Rule 2014(a) of the Bankruptcy Rules, to employ and retain Forshey

& Prostok, LLP ("<u>F&P</u>") as its bankruptcy counsel as of the Petition Date. The Debtor requests that the Court approve the retention of F&P as of the Petition Date to perform the extensive legal services that will be necessary during this chapter 11 case.

- 6. The Debtor contemplates that F&P will render general legal services to the Debtor as needed throughout the course of this chapter 11 case, including litigation and bankruptcy assistance and advice. Certain of the legal services that F&P will render to the Debtor may include the following:
  - (a) Advising the Debtor of its rights, powers and duties as debtor and debtor in possession continuing to operate and manage its business and assets;
  - (b) Advising the Debtor concerning, and assisting in the negotiation and documentation of, agreements, debt restructurings, and related transactions;
  - (c) Reviewing the nature and validity of liens asserted against the property of the Debtor and advising the Debtor concerning the enforceability of such liens;
  - (d) Advising the Debtor concerning the actions that it might take to collect and to recover property for the benefit of the Debtor's estate;
  - (e) Preparing on behalf of the Debtor all necessary and appropriate applications, motions, pleadings, proposed orders, notices, schedules and other documents, and reviewing all financial and other reports to be filed in this chapter 11 case;
  - (f) Advising the Debtor concerning, and preparing responses to, applications, motions, pleadings, notices and other papers that may be filed and served in this chapter 11 case;
  - (g) Counseling the Debtor in connection with the formulation, negotiation and promulgation of one or more plans of reorganization and related documents;
  - (h) Performing all other legal services for and on behalf of the Debtor that may be necessary or appropriate in the administration of this chapter 11 case or in the conduct of the bankruptcy case and the Debtor's business, including advising and assisting the Debtor with respect to debt restructurings, asset dispositions, and general business, tax, finance, real estate and litigation matters; and

- (i) All such other legal services as may be necessary or appropriate in connection with the bankruptcy case.
- 7. The Debtor requires knowledgeable counsel to render the above-described essential professional services. The Debtor has selected F&P as its attorneys because of F&P's extensive experience in the bankruptcy and financial restructuring areas of law. F&P has significant expertise in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency, corporate reorganization and debtor-creditor law. F&P's attorneys have played significant roles in many complex chapter 11 reorganizations. F&P has particular experience in chapter 11 cases and is well-qualified to represent the Debtor's interests in this case.

#### **CO-COUNSEL FOR DEBTOR**

- 8. The Debtor seeks to retain F&P as co-counsel for the Debtor, along with Loeb & Loeb LLP ("Loeb"). The Debtor believes that the employment and retention of co-counsel is necessary and appropriate under the circumstances.
- 9. Due to the size and complexity of the Debtor's Chapter 11 case, the Debtor believes it is appropriate to retain both a national and a local firm as its bankruptcy counsel.

  Loeb has a national practice and, in addition to its exceptional bankruptcy proficiency, brings to the table broad expertise in a number of disciplines. F&P has extensive experience with the local bankruptcy bar and rules of court and is available locally to attend expedited hearings and address issues on an immediate basis as they may arise. Further, either firm will be able to handle any Debtor matter if the other firm has a potential conflict of interest. The Debtor is informed and believes that duplication of effort between Loeb and F&P will be minimized, and that they will work closely together to ensure minimal duplication. In light of the size and complexity of this case, Debtor respectfully submits that the services of Loeb and F&P are necessary and appropriate to ensure that the Debtor's interests are protected. The Debtor

believes that pooling the resources of Loeb and F&P will foster the dual goals of efficient and effective representation and will work to the benefit of the Debtor, the Debtor's estate and creditors of the Debtor.

## PROPOSED COMPENSATION OF FORSHEY & PROSTOK, LLP

10. Subject to the Court's approval, F&P will charge the Debtor for its legal services on an hourly basis at its customary hourly rates, which are subject to change from time-to-time. The current hourly rates for the professionals who are expected to be most involved in this matter are set forth below:

Professional	Fee Range
Jeff P. Prostok	\$675.00
Lynda L. Lankford	\$485.00
Other Firm Attorneys	\$275.00 - \$625.00
Paralegal/Legal Assistant	\$175.00 - \$255.00

- 11. In addition, F&P will seek reimbursement of expenses advanced on behalf of the Debtor according to its customary and usual practices. F&P will maintain detailed records of any actual and necessary or appropriate costs and expenses incurred in connection with the aforementioned legal services.
- 12. F&P intends to apply to the Court for compensation and reimbursement of expenses in accordance with applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Bankruptcy Rules, and orders of this Court. In the event the Application is approved, the Debtor reserves the right to request the implementation of interim compensation procedures with respect to fees and expenses incurred by F&P in the course of its representation of the Debtor in this case; however, any such additional request will be made by separate motion.

## **DISCLOSURES**

- 13. As set forth in the Declaration of Jeff P. Prostok (the "<u>Declaration</u>") to be filed herewith, F&P was retained by the Debtor prior to the Petition Date to provide legal advice to the Debtor, including restructuring and bankruptcy advice, and preparation of the requisite petitions, pleadings, exhibits, lists and schedules relating to the commencement of the Debtor's chapter 11 case. In connection with such engagement, the Debtor, through Loeb, paid to F&P a retainer in the amount of \$25,000.00 on January 28, 2020 (the "<u>Retainer</u>") prior to the bankruptcy filing. Of the total Retainer, \$19,936.00 was applied pre-petition to satisfy fees and expenses incurred prior to the Petition Date. The remainder of the Retainer in the amount of \$5,064.00 is being held in F&P's trust account.
- 14. F&P does not believe that it received any preferential payments, as its fees and expenses were billed against the Retainer in the ordinary course of business. If F&P is retained as counsel, and if any such transfers are determined to be preferential, and not subject to any defense or offset, F&P will return the voidable transfer and will waive any prepetition claim based upon the return of the voidable transfer.
- 15. To the best of the Debtor's knowledge, information and belief, other than as disclosed in the Declaration, F&P has no connection with the Debtor, its creditors or any other party in interest herein or their respective attorneys or accountants, the United States Trustee or any person employed in the Office of the United States Trustee. F&P has not represented any other party in interest with respect to any matter related to the Debtor.
- 16. To the best of the Debtor's knowledge, information and belief, F&P represents no interest adverse to the Debtor or to its estate in the matters for which F&P is proposed to be retained and is a "disinterested person" as defined in section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code.

The Debtor submits that its employment of F&P would be in the best interests of the Debtor, its estate and creditors.

- 17. The Declaration filed concurrently herewith has been executed on behalf of F&P in accordance with the provisions of sections 327, 328, 329 and 504 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2014, N.D. Tex. L.B.R. 2014-1 and 2016-1 and U.S. Trustee Guidelines. The Debtor's knowledge, information and belief regarding the matters set forth herein are based and made in reliance upon said Declaration.
  - 18. No previous application for the relief requested herein has been made in this case.

#### **NOTICE**

19. Notice of this Application will be provided to (i) the Office of the United States

Trustee for the Northern District of Texas; (ii) the holders of the twenty (20) largest unsecured
claims against the Debtor; and (iii) parties requesting notice; all as set forth below. The Debtor
submits that no further notice need be provided.

#### **CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully requests that the Court enter an Order authorizing the employment and retention of Forshey & Prostok, LLP as attorneys for the Debtor, effective as of the Petition Date, on the terms set forth above, and granting the Debtor all other just and proper relief.

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Dated: February 11, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

**EVENTIDE CREDIT ACQUISITIONS, LLC** 

By:

Drew McManigle, Manager

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeff P. Prostok
Jeff P. Prostok
Texas Bar No. 16352500
Lynda L. Lankford
State Bar No. 11935020
FORSHEY & PROSTOK LLP
777 Main St., Suite 1290
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
(817) 877-8855 Telephone
(817) 877-4151 Facsimile
jprostok@forsheyprostok.com
llankford@forsheyprostok.com

PROPOSED COUNSEL FOR DEBTOR AND DEBTOR-IN-POSSESSION

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served upon the parties requesting service via this Court's ECF Electronic Notice and upon the parties on the attached Service List via United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, on February 11, 2020.

/s/ Jeff P. Prostok
Jeff P. Prostok

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Service List Eventide #6075

Internal Revenue Service Centralized Insolvency Operations PO Box 7346 Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

Amadou Kilkenny Diaw Ruyak Cherian LLP (NA) 1700 K Street NW, Suite 810 Washington, DC 20006

Andrew Kurt Clark Hirschler Fleischer PC 2100 E. Cary Street Richmond, VA 23223

Ascension Technologies, LLC E23970 Pow Wow Trail Watersmeet, MI 49969

Breakwater Holding, LLC Attn: Tine Ponia Bermuda House, Tutakimoa Road PO Box 822 Rarotonga, Cook Islands

Casey Shannon Nash Kelly Guzzo PLC 3925 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 202 Fairfax, VA 22030

Craig Carley Marchiando Consumer Litigation Associates 763 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Suite 1A Newport News, VA 23601

Cynthia B. Chapman Caddell & Chapman 628 East 9th Street Houston, TX 77007

Eleanor Michelle Drake Berger & Montague PC 43 S.E. Main Street, Suite 505 Minneapolis, MN 55414 Eventide Credit Acquisitions, LLC Drew McManigle 1920 McKinney Ave., 7th Floor Dallas, TX 75201

Eventide Credit Acquisitions, LLC c/o Bernard R. Given, II Loeb & Loeb 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 2200 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Amy E. Tabor Caddell & Chapman 628 East 9th Street Houston, TX 77007

Anna Bruty Rosette, LLP 44 Grandville Ave., SW, Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Beth Ellen Terrell Terrell Marshall Law Group PLLC 936 North 34th St., Suite 300 Seattle, WA 98103-6689

Brendan C. Horgan LeClair Ryan PC (Richmond) 919 East Main Street, 24th Floor Richmond, VA 23219

Charles Palella Armstrong Teasdale LLP (NY-NA) 919 Third Avenue, 37th Floor New York, NY 10022

Craig Crandall Reilly Law Office of Craig C. Reilly 111 Oronoco St Alexandria, VA 22314

David N. Anthony Troutman Sanders LLP 1001 Haxall Point Richmond, VA 23219

Elizabeth A. Ryan Bailey & Glasser LLP 99 High Street, Suite 304 Boston, MA 02110 United States Trustee Erin Schmidt 1100 Commerce St., Room 976 Dallas, TX 75242

Alec Paul Harris Armstrong Teasdale LLP (CO-NA) 4643 S Ulster Street Suite 800 Denver, CO 80237

Andrew Joseph Guzzo Kelly Guzzo PLC 3925 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 202 Fairfax, VA 22030

Anna Marek Bruty Rosette LLP 44 Grandville Ave SW, Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Big Picture Loans, LLC E23970 Pow Wow Trial Watersmeet, MI 49969

Brian McFadden 3133 Indian Pont Road Saugatuck, MI 49453

Cortland Christopher Putbrese Dunlap Bennett & Ludwig (Richmond) 8003 Franklin Farms Dr., Suite 220 Richmond, VA 23229

Craig Thomas Merritt Christian & Barton LLP 909 E Main St., Suite 1200 Richmond, VA 23219-3095

Devin Noble Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP (IL-NA) 100 Park Avenue PO Box 1389 Rockford, IL 61105

Elizabeth Anne Adams Terrell Marshall Law Group PLLC 936 North 34th St., Suite 300 Seattle, WA 98103-6689 Elizabeth Childress Burneson Hirschler Fleischer PC 2100 E Cary Street Richmond, VA 23223

Gallant Capital, LLC 1920 McKinney Avenue, 7th Floor Dallas, TX 75201

Ian D. Roffman Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP Seaport West 155 Seaport Boulevard Boston, MA 02210-2604

John B. Scofield, Jr. Caddell & Chapman 628 East 9th St. Houston, TX 77007

John Michael Erbach Spotts Fain PC 411 E Franklin St/. Suite 600 Richmond, VA 23219

Justin Martorello 2019 Westbourne Park Dr. Houston, TX 77077

Leonard Anthony Bennett Consumer Litigation Associates 763 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Suite 1A Newport News, VA 23601

Michael J. Leard Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP Seaport West 155 Seaport Boulevard Boston, MA 02210-2604

Nicole St. Germain Rosette LLP 1415 L Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Rebecca Ruby Anzidei Ruyak Cherian LLP 1700 K St. NW, Suite 810 Washington, DC 20006 Elizabeth Clay Solander Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP (DC) 1775 I Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20006

Harrison Mann Gates Christian & Barton LLP 909 E Main St, Suite 1200 Richmond, VA 23219

James Dowd 2014 Calle Las Violetas San Juan, PR 00915-3537

John Gerard Albanese Berger & Montague PC 43 S.E. Main Street, Suite 505 Minneapolis, MN 55414

Jonathan Frank Hollis Woods Rogers PLC (Richmond) Riverfront Plaza, West Tower 901 East Byrd Street, Suite 1550 Richmond, VA 23219

Karrie S. Wichtman, General Counsel Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians N4698 US 45 PO Box 249 Watersmeet, MI 49969

Martin Cunniff RuyakCherian LLP (NA) 1700 K Street NW, Suite 810 Washington, DC 20006

Michael Stinson Dorsey & Whitney LLP (MN-NA) 50 S Sixth St., Suite 1500 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Office of General Counsel 801 Cherry Street Suite 2500, Unit 45 Fort Worth, TX 76102

Richard L. Scheff Armstrong Teasdale LLP 2005 Market Street, 29th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103 Elizabeth W. Hanes Consumer Litigation Associates (Richmond) 626 E Broad Street, Suite 300 Richmond, VA 23219

Hugh McCoy Fain, III Spotts Fain PC 411 E Franklin St PO Box 1555 Richmond, VA 23218-1555

Jennifer Rust Murray Terrell Marshall Law Group PLLC 936 North 34th St., Suite 300 Seattle, WA 98103-6689

John J. Roddy Bailey & Glasser LLP 99 High Street, Suite 304 Boston, MA 02110

Justin Alexander Gray Rosette, LLP 44 Grandville Ave., SW, Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Kristi Cahoon Kelly Kelly Guzzo PLC 3925 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 202 Fairfax, VA 22030

Michael A. Caddell Caddell & Chapman 628 East 9th Street Houston, TX 77007

Michael T. Grant LeClair Ryan, P.C. 60 State Street, 23rd Fl. Boston, MA 02109

Pax ADR, LLC 2101 L Street, NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20037

Robert Allen Rosette Rosette, LLP 565 W. Chandler Blvd., Suite 212 Chandler, AZ 85225 Simon Liang 119 Gascony Dr. Greenville, SC 29609-6048

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Revenue Accounting Division – Bankruptcy Section PO Box 13528 Capitol Station Austin, TX 78711

Vernie Charles Durocher, Jr. Dorsey & Whitney LLP (MN-NA) 50 S Sixth St., Suite 1500 Minneapolis, MN 55402

Renee Galloway 142 Banneker Dr. Williamsburg, VA 23185

Richard L. Smith, Jr. 42180 NW Wilkes St. Banks, OR 97106 Steve D. Larson Stoll Stoll Berne Lokting & Shlachter P.C. 209 SW Oak Street, Suite 500 Portland, OR 97204

Thomas Lester Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP (IL-NA) 100 Park Avenue PO Box 1389 Rockford, IL 61105

Dowin Coffy 2160 W. Monroe St., Apt. C Springfield, IL 62704

George Hengle 12801 Winfree St. Chester, VA 23831

Teresa Titus 4125 S. Settler Dr. #127 Ridgefield, WA 98642 Steven C. Berman Stoll Stoll Berne Lokting & Schlachter 209 SW Oak Street, 5th Floor Portland, OR 97204

Timothy J. St. George Troutman Sanders LLP 1001 Haxall Point Richmond, VA 23219

Dana Duggan 2 Cityview Lane, Apt. 810 Quincy, MA 02169

Regina Nolte 3210 Eddy Court Indianapolis, IN 46214